



Destrehan High School
Home of the
Fighting Wildcats

Important Dates:

Thanksgiving:
November 23-27

LEAP Testing:
December 7 –11

Early Dismissal:
December 18

Return to School:
January 4

Mission Statement:

Our mission at Destrehan High School is to provide a nurturing community of teaching and learning in which all students will continuously improve to become responsible, contributing members of society.

Friends of DHS

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 3

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2020

Greetings from Mr. Madere:

Dear Fighting Wildcat Families,

As we begin the holiday season, I would personally like to thank all of our faculty and staff for the hard work and professionalism shown in these first months of the 2020-21 school year.

As a school community, we're stressing the importance of a strong work ethic - especially when the going 'gets tough'. It's important that we continue to challenge our students to be 'all that they can be', believe in themselves and succeed in whatever endeavor they undertake. Our School District's Core Business is Teaching and Learning- and it is important that we stress that all stakeholders continue to take part in this process. Communication between the school and parent is essential in accomplishing this priority. Remember to continue to stay abreast of your student's school work, either through the Parent Portal web based system to check grades, attendance, and the school bulletin online, and/or at any time by calling or e-mailing teachers. If you have any questions regarding our Parent Portal or any issue regarding Destrehan High School, please call the school.

Remember that December 7-10 will be LEAP testing days. Only students (on-campus and eLearners) will be on campus on those days; all other students will take part in virtual instruction. Please review the newsletter for additional, important information regarding these tests.

We thank you for your support and continued patience. If you have any questions or concerns please call me at (985)764-9946 or email me at jmadere4@stcharles.k12.la.us.

Remember: "Resilience + Perseverance = Unlimited Possibilities."

Happy Holidays!

Jason Madere
Principal
Destrehan High School

ROARS Expectations

At DHS, we are proud to say that although our students come and go, tradition never graduates. One of our enduring traditions is our ROARS Expectations. These are the values we want all members of the Destrehan High School family to emulate.

Respect Everyone.

Optimize Learning

Attendance and Timeliness are Essential

Responsibility - Be Prepared Every Day.

Success - Dress for it!

Meet these expectations, and soon you will be a proud graduate of Destrehan High School.



COMMUNICATION CORNER:

Follow us on **Twitter:** [@DHSWildcats](https://twitter.com/DHSWildcats)

See our **website:** www.stcharles.k12.la.us/destrehan. Click "View All" to avoid missing anything.

Visit **PowerSchools** to keep up with your students' school work. You can also view the Daily Bulletin there.

Check out the school's **Google Classrooms**. Ask teachers to invite you as a guardian for class updates.

Check in with your children; they belong to **Grade-Level Classrooms** that provide useful information throughout the year.

Counselor News:

At this time, seniors should be submitting their college applications online, if they haven't already done so. They should apply to their "Dream" school, their "Back-up" school and one or two other schools. If your child is applying out-of-state, be sure to check out the website for admissions criteria. Seniors and/or parents who need assistance with making post-secondary plans are encouraged to make an appointment with their counselors. You may call the counseling suite at 985-764-9872 for an appointment.

Seniors will receive the DHS Scholarship Application in homeroom on November 9th. You will get the "Name on Diploma" on November 16th. Both forms are due in the counseling suite by Dec. 18, 2020. The DHS Scholarship Application allows seniors to be considered for many local scholarships for two, four year and technical colleges. All seniors are encouraged to complete the application. All seniors must also complete the "Name on Diploma" form so that they can indicate if they want their middle name, middle initial, or neither of the above on their diploma or if they are a Jr., III, or IV and want that on the diploma. Parents should also sign both forms.

Operation Spark

Students interested in taking online computer programming courses through Operation Spark should pick up an application in the School-to-Career office.

Operation Spark will be offering a beginner coding class, an advanced coding class, and a specialty class: "The Internet of Things." All courses offer high school credit, and the coding courses offer an industry-based credential. The classes are free, but the student must have a laptop or desktop computer and reliable high speed internet.

The deadline to submit applications is December 11, and classes begin online in mid-January.



LEAP and eLearners

eLearning students are reminded that they will take the LEAP on campus in December. If transportation is required, you may reach the Transportation Department by selecting "eLearners—LEAP Test information" on the school website and filling out the Google form there.

Visit our teacher web pages!!
www.stcharles.k12.la.us/destrehan

LaNEXT Magazine Digital Edition Now Available

Louisiana NEXT is making the digital edition of their annual magazine available to schools and students. School systems and schools can share this link with middle or high school students.

LaNEXT is an annual magazine that provides a unique, comprehensive source of information and guidance to high school students. It offers insight, tools, and encouragement to students as they develop their educational and career goals. This includes information on choosing a career, jobs, salaries, and education and training options for a variety of career tracks, as well as financial aid and scholarships and details on the college application process.

Please contact leslie.gilliland@la.gov with questions.



CALENDAR REVISIONS

The School Calendar was revised on September 23, to overcome the seven days missed due to tropical systems. The calendar can be seen on the next page; please note the following changes:

- ~ The Fall Semester has been extended to **January 7**. Students will return from Christmas Holiday on **January 4** (this is a day earlier than originally scheduled).
- ~ Exam days previously scheduled as half-days (October 6-9 and December 15-18) are now full days. **December 18** will remain an Early Dismissal Day.
- ~ Midterm and Final Exams will not be administered this year. PowerSchools will be adjusted accordingly.
- ~ Visit the school website to view the changes to quarterly start/finish dates.



CDC Covid-19 Holiday Considerations



The COVID-19 pandemic has been [stressful](#) and isolating for many people. Gatherings during the upcoming holidays can be an opportunity to reconnect with family and friends. This holiday season, consider how your holiday plans can be modified to reduce the spread of COVID-19 to keep your friends, families, and communities healthy and safe. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 epidemic is worsening, and small household gatherings are an important contributor to the rise in COVID-19 cases. CDC offers the following considerations to slow the spread of COVID-19 during small gatherings. These considerations are meant to supplement—**not replace**—any [state, local, territorial](#), or [tribal](#) health and safety laws, rules, and regulations with which all gatherings must comply.

Celebrating virtually or with members of your own household (who are consistently taking [measures](#) to reduce the spread of COVID-19) poses the lowest risk for spread. Your household is anyone who currently lives and shares common spaces in your housing unit (such as your house or apartment). This can include family members, as well as roommates or people who are unrelated to you. People who do not currently live in your housing unit, such as college students who are returning home from school for the holidays, should be considered part of different households. In-person gatherings that bring together family members or friends from different households, including college students returning home, pose varying levels of risk. There are several factors that contribute to the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19 at small in-person gatherings. In combination, these factors will create various amounts of risk:

Community levels of COVID-19 – High or increasing levels of COVID-19 cases in the gathering location, as well as in the areas where attendees are coming from, increase the risk of infection and spread among attendees. Family and friends should consider the number of COVID-19 cases in their community and in the community where they plan to celebrate when deciding whether to host or attend a gathering. Information on the number of cases in an area can often be found on the local [health department](#) website.

Exposure during travel – Airports, bus stations, train stations, public transport, gas stations, and rest stops are all places travelers can be exposed to the virus in the air and on surfaces.

- **Location of the gathering** – Indoor gatherings, especially those with poor ventilation (for example, small enclosed spaces with no outside air), pose more risk than outdoor gatherings.

Duration of the gathering – Gatherings that last longer pose more risk than shorter gatherings. Being within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more greatly increases the risk of becoming sick and requires a 14-day [quarantine](#).

Number and crowding of people at the gathering – Gatherings with more people pose more risk than gatherings with fewer people. CDC does not have a limit or recommend a specific number of attendees for gatherings. The size of a holiday gathering should be determined based on the ability of attendees from different households to stay [6 feet \(2 arm lengths\) apart](#), wear [masks](#), [wash hands](#), and follow [state, local, territorial](#), or [tribal](#) health and safety laws, rules, and regulations.

Behaviors of attendees prior to the gathering – Individuals who did not consistently adhere to [social distancing](#) (staying at least 6 feet apart), [mask wearing](#), [handwashing](#), and other prevention behaviors pose more risk than those who consistently practiced these safety measures.

Behaviors of attendees during the gathering – Gatherings with more safety measures in place, such as [mask wearing](#), [social distancing](#), and [handwashing](#), pose less risk than gatherings where fewer or no preventive measures are being implemented. Use of [alcohol or drugs](#) may alter judgment and make it more difficult to practice COVID-19 safety measures.

It is not recommended to host or participate in any in-person gatherings if you or anyone in your household:

Has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and has [not met the criteria for when it is safe to be around others](#)

Has [symptoms of COVID-19](#)

Is waiting for COVID-19 [viral test](#) results

May have been [exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days](#)

Is at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19

2020 Destrehan Football Game Fan Procedures

Ticket Guidelines

- **Game tickets will cost \$8.00**
- **The capacity limitations and social distancing requirements allows for 800 fans to attend the athletic contest. (400 on the home side and 400 on the visitor side)**
- **Each football player and support group member (band, color guard, cheerleaders, Destys, and managers/student trainers) will be provided the opportunity for family members to purchase 2 game tickets. Families may purchase 2 tickets for all regular season home games at the beginning of the season (4 home games total) or 2 tickets for each individual game. Purchases involving 2 tickets for individual games will need to be purchased by the Tuesday prior to the game.**
- **Tickets will be allotted for the Destrehan student body to purchase. Students wishing to purchase game tickets must fill out the Google form found on the website or scan the QR code located around the school to participate in each game week's ticket sales. Students will submit a request to purchase a ticket via a Google form no later than the end of the school day on Tuesday prior to the game. The process for student tickets will go as follows: we will select based on grade level starting with seniors. Students who have been chosen, starting with seniors, will be informed on Wednesday. They will purchase their ticket on Thursday/Friday during their lunch time. Should student requests for tickets exceed the total number of tickets available, then there will be a random draw based on grade level.**
- **Any remaining tickets will be sold in pairs in the bookstore on game day. Due to social distancing requirements, single ticket purchases will eliminate an attendance opportunity.**
- **If there are any tickets remaining, they will be available 45 minutes prior to game time in the bookstore. Fans must stay in their cars until the appropriate time. Congregating outside of vehicles prior to 6:15 is prohibited.**
- **Coaching card admission will be limited to 10 for the home side and 10 for the visiting side of the stadium.**

Fan Guidelines

- **Tailgating is prohibited on campus.**
- **Participant/Support Group fans will enter the stadium at the traditional gate entrance (the media gate located in the south end zone) and report to the stadium seating area located by the end zone, opposite the scoreboard (Thomas Colby side).**
- **Fans will enter the stadium at the main gate entrance located past the ticket booth.**
- **Student section has moved to end of the stadium, furthest from the scoreboard (where the support groups previously stood).**
- **Visiting fans will enter the stadium at the traditional visitors' side gate entrance and report to the stadium seating area.**
- **Fans will not enter the stadium more than 45 minutes prior to the game. (Fans will wait in their car, if they arrive early; no one will be allowed to wait outside of the stadium or congregate outside of their vehicles)**

Don't miss out on preserving your child's high school memories! Order the yearbook NOW! www.destrehanyearbook.com or email mboudreaux@stcharles.k12.la.us

Playoffs? Playoffs!

Congratulations to the Destrehan Fighting Wildcats Football Team, who with a 36-12 victory over Hahnville clinched the District 7-5A title.

The Fighting Wildcats (7-1 overall, 6-0 in district play) will open the postseason at home, as the Number 5 seed and will host the 28th-ranked Ouachita Parish Lions. Round 1 will be played on **Friday, November 27, at 6:00 pm**. Please note that the game starts an hour earlier than usual.

Tickets for the game may be purchased at Destrehan on **Wednesday, November 25**, in the front office from **4:00 to 6:00 pm**. Tickets are \$10 each.

LEAP Expectations

LEAP Testing will occur Monday (12/7)-Thursday (12/10).

There are no "Garnet" or "Grey" designations for these four days. ALL students will be expected to engage in at-home learning **each** day.

Students are responsible for completing all assignments posted in Google Classroom as assigned by the teacher.

Attendance will be taken in each period. Students **MUST** log into the Google Meet in order to be counted present.

On days that students have no LEAP test, they will log into their classes' Google Meets at the designated times, participate in class, and complete assignments for grades as designated by their teachers.

On days that students take LEAP tests, they will log into their classes while in testing rooms, and work on assigned classwork. When they return home, they will log into each of their Google Classrooms and complete the "After Testing" assignments.

Students will not have classwork on a given day, if they are taking that class's LEAP test. For example, English I students will not have classwork for the day they take the English I LEAP.

If absent, students are expected to make up work within 3 school days.

Attention Parents:

The DHS newsletter is available on the DHS website. If you would still like to receive a newsletter at your residence, please fill out the information below, cut it out, and mail to:

**William Plasse
#1 Wildcat Lane
Destrehan, LA 70047**

Yes! I want to continue receiving the DHS newsletter in my home.

(Please print):

Parent Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Destrehan High School

Newsletter Editor—Bill Plasse
wplasse@stcharles.k12.la.us



Need to contact us?

By Phone: 985-764-9946
Website: www.stcharles.k12.la.us/destrehan

Jason Madere, Principal
Laura Abbey, Asst. Principal
Jessica Glass, Asst. Principal
Frank Harding, Asst. Principal
Tracy Logan, Asst. Principal
Kurt Menyweather, Admin. Monitor

Important Dates - November/December 2020

November 2-3: Election Break
November 11: Early Dismissal
November 19: End of 3rd Quarter
November 23-27: Thanksgiving Holiday
December 7 - 11: LEAP Testing
December 18: Early Dismissal
December 21- Jan 1: Christmas/New Year's Holidays

Destrehan High School
#1 Wildcat Lane
Destrehan, LA 70047

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Equal Opportunity Statement

In compliance with Title VI, Title IX and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, this Educational Agency holds the following policy:

This is an equal opportunity school and is dedicated to a policy of non-discrimination in employment or training. Qualified students, applicants or employees will not be excluded from any course or activity because of age, race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin or qualified handicap. All students have equal rights to counseling and training.



ASBESTOS NOTICE

Notice: In 1986 all asbestos materials were identified in all school buildings. A management plan was developed for each school as per the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). The management plan is located in a binder in the main office of each school. The binders are available for review upon request.

Since the plan was developed, most of the asbestos has been removed. In a few buildings, some floor tile still remains that contains asbestos. All of the schools meet the health requirements that pertain to the regulation. If you have any questions concerning this topic, please contact Kevin Barney, Director of Physical Plant Maintenance at 985-331-3600 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.